Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 ARA-10 /090 W

-----019990 221435Z /47

R 220731Z JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL KARACHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3594 INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

CONFIDENTIAL KARACHI 3021

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SHUM, PK, UNHRC

SUBJ: RUSSIAN PRESSURES ON PAKISTANI UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

REF: KARACHI 3020

1. MR. GHULAM ALI ALLANA, CHAIRMAN OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WORKING GROUP ON CHILE, CALLED BPAO KARACHI AND INVITED HIM FOR AFTERNOON TEA AT HIS KARACHI RESIDENCE JUNE 21. AFTER INVITING HIS SON, PYARALI ALLANA, FORMER PPP PROVINCIAL MINISTER OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION TO SHOW THE BPAO'S WIFE THE OUTDOOR SCULPTURE, ALLANA SAID THAT HE WAS BEING "BULLIED" BY THE RUSSIANS ABOUT HIS HANDLING OF THE CHILEAN INVESTIGATION TRIP WHICH, WE GATHER, HAS NOW BEEN AGREED UPON BUT NO DATE SET. HE SAID THAT THEY HAD "BOTHERED" HIM IN NEW YORK AND THAT, AFTER HE RETURNED TO KARACHI, SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL VOLKOV HAD COME TO HIS HOUSE AND "READ A LETTER AT HIM" WHICH HE FELT TO BE PEREMPTORY IN TONE. ALTHOUGH HE DIDN'T GO INTO DETAIL, THE SOVIET UNHAPPINESS SEEMED TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP WHICH WOULD ACTUALLY TRAVEL TO CHILE. BPAO GATHERED THAT CONFIDENTIAL.

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MR. ALLANA WOULD NOT BE GOING WITH THE PARTY.

2. MR. ALLANA, WHO SAID THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HE WAS BEING "OBSERVED" AND THAT HIS TELEPHONE WAS INSECURE, ASKED THE BPAO, WHO HAD BROUGHT HIM A MESSAGE FROM THE USUN BEFORE DURING THE ABSENCE OF THE CONSUL GENERAL, TO SEND A MESSAGE TO US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNHRC

MEZVINSKY. HE EXPRESSED GREAT ANXIETY, INQUIRING SEVERAL TIMES, ABOUT THE SECURITY OF THE TELEGRAM, BUT WANTED MR. MEZVINSKY TO KNOW THAT "THE MAN HAD MET HIM" AND WANTED MR. MEZVINSKY TO CALL HIM AT HIS KARACHI NUMBER (SEPTEL).

- 3. MR. ALLANA THEN ASKED THE BPAO HOW HE COULD MEET HIM IF THERE WAS AN ANSWERING MESSAGE FROM NEW YORK AND SUGGESTED THAT, SINCE HE HAD COME IN TO SEE HIM ABOUT HIS US VISA ALREADY, PERHAPS HE SHOULDN'T BE SEEN COMING INTO THE CONSULATE AGAIN. BPAO SUGGESTED MEETING FOR TEA AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL COFFEE SHOP, AMONG OTHER POSSIBILITIES, AND MR. ALLANA READILY ACCEPTED THAT ALTERNATIVE.
- 4. MR. ALLANA, WHO IS ALSO AN INTERNATIONAL POET LAUREAT WITH SOME FOURTEEN BOOKS OF HIS WORKS PUBLISHED, ALSO ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR RECITING SOME OF HIS ENGLISH WORKS ON TELEVISION IN NEW YORK. WHILE HE DID NOT SEEM TO BE IN IMMINENT PHYSICAL FEAR, IT WAS CLEAR TO THE BPAO THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE FOCUSSED ON HIM AND THAT HE FEELS THREATENED BY THEIR NETWORK.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, COMMITTEES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 jun 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KARACH03021
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: X1 Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780260-0913 Format: TEL

From: KARACHI Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780631/aaaabavg.tel

Line Count: 85 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: b39cbf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION HA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 KARACHI 3020

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 jun 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2250785 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: RUSSIAN PRESSURES ON PAKISTANI UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEMBERS

TAGS: SHUM, PK, UNHRC, (ALLANA, GHULAM ALI)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b39cbf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014